(ii) Strengthening the prosecution and related machinery;

(iii) Streamlining and improving procedures, especially from the point of view of expediting trial court procedures;

(iv) Tackling the problem of undertrials and matters connected with the grant of bail; and

(v) Effecting miscellaneous improvements.

The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 2003, introduced in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 2003, have also proposals to amend various provisions of the Cr. P.C. and IPC.

Apart from the above, the Malimath Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System in its report have recommended various changes to the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, the Indian Penal Code, 1860 and other laws. The Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure are on the Concurrent List of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and they are administered by the State Governments. Therefore, before effecting major changes in these laws, consultations with State Governments are essential. Accordingly, the Report of the Malimath Committee was forwarded to the State Governments for their views.

(d) In view of above, does not arise.

Status of Bangladesh Border Fencing

3003. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of border fencing in the Assam part of Indo-Bangladesh Border;

(b) the total expenditure already incurred and estimated amount of cost required to complete the work;

(c) whether there is unnecessary delay in work progress; and

(d) if so, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Government of India has sanctioned construction of 223 Km. of fence in Assam Sector and out of this 153

Kms. has been completed. Approximately an amount of Rs.152 crore has been incurred and an estimated amount of Rs.145 crore is required to complete the balance work. This also includes the expenditure incurred on construction of border roads in the area.

(c) and (d) Delay in acquisition of land, non-alignment of fence, water logging in many parts of the area for better part of the year, change in course of rivers Khushiara and Surma, which run along the international border in the area are some of the reasons for slow progress of work in Assam Sector.

Terrorists in different parts of the country

†3004. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of terrorists have sneaked in different parts of the country as a part of their strategy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that terrorists have threatened to target Ministers of Jammu and Kashmir and other States and the Union Ministers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) Reports regarding sneaking of terrorists are received by the Government from time to time. Further, intelligence inputs indicating plans of various terrorist and militant groups to target Ministers of Jammu and Kashmir and other States and Union Ministers are also received. These threat inputs are shared with the concerned Central/State Government agencies for suitably strengthening the security of the threatened persons.

Usefulness of International Charter during Tsunami Disaster

3005. DR. K. KASTURIRANGAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Charter Space and Major Disasters of which India is a signatory was invoked during the recent Tsunami disaster;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.